SUBJECT No. 42.

Establishment of central A.-V. Schools with Boarding houses in the backward tracts.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga Taluk.

Summary of Representation.—Central A.-V. Schools with Boarding houses attached to them may be established in the backward tracts of the country, the boarding of such boys as are poor being provided free of cost.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 43.

Providing scholarships to Panchamas.

Messrs. P. Murugesam Pillay, Adi Dravida Abhivriddhi Sangham, Bangalore. Bandlu Yellappa, Jagalur Municipality.

Mr. Murugesam Pillai.—Scholarships for Panchama students may be extended to boys reading in elementary and primary standards to encourage education among the depressed classes. The number of scholarships granted is very small.

The value of scholarships now granted in the secondary and high school classes is inadequate to attract students for higher education. It may be suitably increased until boarding institutions are established in all the important districts of the State.

SUBJECT No. 44.

Agriculture to be made an optional subject from the Secondary to the B.A. classes.

Mr. Puttusami Gowda, Malvalli Taluk.

Inspector-General of Education.—Some increase seems necessary in the value of high school scholarships. Recommendations have been submitted to Government and they are under the consideration of Government.

Mr. Puttusami Gowda.—On account of increasing facilities given for education, the sons of agriculturists and poor people are coming in larger numbers for education. This education has a tendency to make the sons of agriculturists averse to agricultural occupations or manual labour. In my own case, I have got two sons undergoing education. When they came to the village for the vacation, I asked one of them to go to the field and watch the operations; but he flatly refused to do so. He learns costly habits. Nor does he thrive in the direction of literary education. Boys from villages pass their Lower Secondary examination at a very late age. This is my experience. So it is absolutely necessary that agricultural instruction should be given in all schools at least for 2 hours a day, some land being set apart for practical demonstration in each school, so that boys may take to agricultural occupations after their studies.

Dewan.—In the orders on the Education Memorandum, agriculture is made a subject in the High School course.

Mr. Puttusami Gowda.—Even in the Lower secondary schools, it should be made an optional subject.

Inspector-General of Education.—Government want to give agricultural instruction from the middle school, but it is a question of funds. As things stand at present, agricultural instruction can be given only in secondary schools.